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September 8, 2015

2016 State Plan Update

There is a new state plan update regarding Policy 3.8 Confidentiality. The policy now has a WIC memorandum of understanding for Snap-Ed, Office of Epidemiology and Scientific Support (OESS), and Immunizations.

October 1st Local Agency Conference Call

Please mark your calendars for our next conference call on October 1st at 9:00 am. Some of the topics that we will be discussing include: results from our monitoring evaluation, statewide rollout of appointment reminders via text/voice message, EBT update, and some clarifications on the 2016 State Plan.

Moodle

Moodle is a great training application to help eliminate paperwork and ensure that employee training is completed. The M-Spirit training modules will be moved to Moodle starting October 1, 2015, and removed from wic.mt.gov. New employees must have a state assigned user ID in order to log into Moodle. Please complete the required form (OM-300B) and submit to Blair Hendricks. We also provided you with the [Moodle Cheat Sheet](#) for general information.

Keep in mind that if your clinic expects new employees to start before October 1, then they must complete all M-Spirit training modules by September 30, 2015. If training is not completed prior to October 1, then they will have to start over in Moodle. If your new employee does not have enough time to complete the modules prior to October 1, then we suggest that they not watch any modules until then. Please plan accordingly. If you have questions about Moodle please contact Lacy Little via [email](#) or 444-5923.

Check Your Inventory of Breast Pumps, Benefit Stock and MICR

WIC now has a large supply of Breast Pumps, Benefit stock and MICR, please check your inventory and send orders to Mark Squires By Sept 18, as he will no longer be available after the end of September and, before he leaves, he would like to restock your inventory to carry your program through the end of 2015. For all orders please use online [order forms](#).

Updated Staff Training Form

There is an updated staff training form on the WIC website. It is located under local agency and training. This is a guide to train new staff members depending on their roles.

The Importance of Early Childhood Nutrition, WIC, and CACFP

The seventh issue of Food Insecurity and Hunger in the U.S. includes the article “Early Childhood Nutrition Sets the Trajectory for Lifelong Health and Well-Being: WIC and the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) are Key Sources of Quality Early Nutrition.” This article focuses on the critical importance of early child nutrition and the important role of both WIC and CACFP in improving early child nutrition and health. The second section of the issue – on NEW RESEARCH – highlights ten recent studies related to food insecurity, including new research addressing veterans, seniors, adults who are unemployed, pregnant and postpartum women, migrant and seasonal farmworkers, and SNAP participants. This article is approved for 2 WIC CEU's. View the [PDF version](#) of the [Online Version](#).

Montana DPHHS investigating cluster of *Salmonella* illnesses

State and local public health authorities are working together to investigate a cluster of *Salmonella* cases with cases in Cascade, Fergus, Flathead, Gallatin, Lewis & Clark, Park, Musselshell and Yellowstone Counties in Montana. More information is available on the [DPHHS website](#).

September Outreach Idea

It time for families to get back to school. This is a great time to have pamphlets or handouts ready to give to child programs such as head start, child care facilities, and school programs. Help families start off the new school year with an opportunity for great nutrition.

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